I. <u>AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS</u>

Claim 1. (Currently Amended) A compound of general formula (I) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or stereoisomer thereof:

$$R-(Y-ONO_2)_s$$
 (I)

wherein:

s is an integer equal to 1 or 2;

R is selected from the following Angiotensin II Receptor Blocker residues of formula (II) or (III):

$$R_0$$

wherein:

R₀ is

or $-N_0$ which is a group capable to bind to Y, having one of the following meaning:

-COO-, -O-, -CONH-, -OCO-, -OCOO- or

wherein R' and R" are the same or different, and are H or straight or branched C_1 - C_4 alkyl;

 R_1 is selected from the group consisting of:

wherein m is an integer equal to 0 or 1 and N_0 is as above defined;

$$H_3C$$
 N_1
 N_1
 N_1
 N_2
 N_3
 N_4
 N_1
 N_1
 N_2
 N_3
 N_4
 N_4
 N_4
 N_4
 N_5
 N_4
 N_5
 N_4
 N_5
 N_4
 N_5
 N_5

wherein N_1 has the same meaning as N_0 or is equal to -COOH; with the proviso that at least one of the groups N_1 is equal to -COO- or -CONH-, i.e. it is a group capable to bind to Y;

Y is a bivalent radical having the following meaning:

with from 1 to 10 carbon atoms, preferably CH₃;

a)

- straight or branched C_1 - C_{20} alkylene, preferably C_4 - C_{407} being optionally substituted with one or more of the substituents selected from the group consisting of: halogen atoms, hydroxy, $-ONO_2$ or T_0 , wherein T_0 is $-OC(O)(C_1$ - C_{10} alkyl)- ONO_2 or $-O(C_1$ - C_{10} alkyl)- ONO_2 ;
- cycloalkylene with 5 to 7 carbon atoms into cycloalkylene ring, the ring being optionally substituted with side chains T, wherein T is straight or branched alkyl

b)

$$(CH_2)_n$$

c)

$$-(CH_2)_n$$
 $COOH$

wherein n is an integer from 0 to 20, and n¹ is an integer from 1 to 20; d)

$$X_1$$
— $(CH_2)_n$ — $(CH_2)_n$ —

wherein:

n¹ is as defined above and n² is an integer from 0 to 2;

$$X_1 = -OCO$$
- or $-COO$ - and R^2 is H or CH_3 ;

e)

$$Y^1 - X_1 - (CH_2)_{n^1}$$

wherein:

 n^1 , n^2 , R^2 and X_1 are as defined above; Y^1 is $-CH_2$ - CH_2 - or -CH=CH- $(CH_2)_n^2$ -; f)

$$R^2$$
 R^2
 O
 $(CH_2)_{n^1}$

NHR³

wherein:

n¹ and R² are as defined above, R³ is H or -COCH₃;

with the proviso that when Y is selected from the bivalent radicals mentioned under b)-f), the $-ONO_2$ group is linked to a $-(CH_2)_n^{-1}$ group;

g)

wherein X_2 is -O- or -S-, n^3 is an integer from 1 to 6, preferably from 1 to 4, R^2 is as defined above:

h)

$$\begin{array}{c|c}
R^{4} & R^{5} \\
 & | \\
 & | \\
 [C]_{n^{4}} Y^{2} - [C]_{n^{5}} \\
 & | \\
 R^{6} & R^{7}
\end{array}$$

wherein:

n⁴ is an integer from 0 to 10; n⁵ is an integer from 1 to 10;

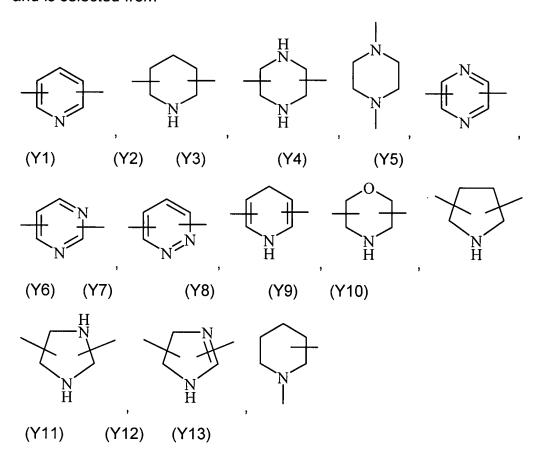
 R^4 , R^5 , R^6 , R^7 are the same or different, and are H or straight or branched C₁-C₄ alkyl, preferably R^4 , R^6 , R^6 , R^7 are H; RPP/226564.1

wherein the -ONO2 group is linked to

$$-\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ C \end{bmatrix}_{n^5}$$

wherein n⁵ is as defined above;

Y² is an heterocyclic saturated, unsaturated or aromatic 5 or 6 members ring, containing one or more heteroatoms selected from nitrogen, oxygen, sulfur, and is selected from



Claim 2. (Original) A compound of general formula (I) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or stereoisomer thereof according to claim 1 wherein Y is a bivalent radical having the following meaning: a) straight or branched C_1 - C_{10} alkylene, being optionally substituted with T_0 , wherein T_0 is as above defined;

$$-(CH_2)_n$$

wherein n is an integer equal to 0 or 1, and n^1 is an integer equal to 1; with the proviso the $-ONO_2$ group is linked to a $-(CH_2)_n^1$ group;

g)

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & ---(\text{CH-CH}_2\text{-X}_2)_{\text{n}^3} & \text{CH-CH}_2^{--} \\ & & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ \end{array}$$

wherein X_2 is -O- or -S-, n^3 is an integer equal to 1 and R^2 is H.

Claim 3. (Currently Amended) A compound according to elaims 1-2 claim 1, selected from the group consisting of:

(13)

$$\begin{array}{c|c} & & & & \\ & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & &$$

(26)

(40)

(41)

$$CH_3$$
 N
 CH_3
 O
 O
 O
 ONO_2
 (43)

(46)

$$H_3C$$

N

ONO₂

ONO₂

ONO₂

$$H_3C$$
 N
 ONO_2
 $OOOO_2$
 $OOOO_2$
 $OOOO_2$

$$H_3C$$
 ONO_2
 ONO_2
 ONO_3
 ONO_4
 ONO_4

(66)

(75)

(78)

Claim 4. (Canceled)

Claim 5. (Currently Amended) Use of a compound according to claims 1-3 for preparing a drug having A method of conferring anti-inflammatory, antithrombotic and antiplatelet activity in a subject, comprising administering to the subject a compound according to claim 1.

Claim 6. (Currently Amended) Use of a compound according to claims 1-3, for preparing a drug that can be employed in the A method of treatment or

prophylaxis of cardiovascular, renal and chronic liver diseases, inflammatory processes and metabolic syndromes in a subject, comprising administering to the subject a compound according to claim 1.

Claim 7. (Currently Amended) Use of a compound according to claim 6, for preparing a drug that can be employed in the A method of treatment or prophylaxis of heart failure, myocardial infarction, ischemic stroke, atherosclerosis, ocular and pulmonary hypertension, hypertension, diabetic nephropathy, peripheral vascular diseases, left ventricular dysfunction and hypertrophy, liver fibrosis and portal hypertension in a subject, comprising administering to the subject a compound according to claim 1.

Claim 8. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and a pharmaceutically effective amount of a compound of general formula (I) or a salt or stereoisomer thereof according to claims 1-3 claim 1.

Claim 9. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 8 in a suitable form for the oral, parenteral, rectal, topic and transdermic administration, by inhalation spray or aerosol or iontophoresis devices.

Claim 10. (Currently Amended) <u>A Liquid liquid</u> or solid pharmaceutical composition for oral, parenteral, rectal, topic and transdermic administration or inhalation in the form of tablets, capsules and pills eventually with enteric coating, powders, granules, gels, emulsions, solutions, suspensions, syrups, elixir, injectable forms, suppositories, in transdermal patches or liposomes, containing a compound of formula (I) or a salt or stereoisomer thereof according to claims 1-3 claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

Claim 11. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of general formula (I) of claim 1, at least a compound used to treat cardiovascular disease and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

Claim 12. (Currently Amended) <u>A Pharmaceutical pharmaceutical</u> composition according to claim 11 wherein the compound used to treat cardiovascular disease is selected from the group consisting of: ACE inhibitors, HMGCoA reductase inhibitors, beta-adrenergic blockers, calcium channel blockers, diuretics, antithrombotics such as aspirin, nitrosated ACE inhibitors, nitrosated HMGCoA reductase inhibitors, nitrosated beta-adrenergic blockers, nitrosated aspirin and nitrosated diuretics.

Claim 13. (Original) A pharmaceutical kit comprising a compound of general formula (I) as defined in claim 1, a compound used to treat cardiovascular disease as combined preparation for simultaneous, separated, sequential use for the treatment of cardiovascular disease.

Claim 14. (Original) A pharmaceutical kit according to claim 13 wherein the compound used to treat cardiovascular disease is selected from the group consisting of: ACE inhibitors, HMGCoA reductase inhibitors, beta-adrenergic blockers; calcium channel blockers, diuretics, antithrombotics such as aspirin, nitrosated ACE inhibitors, nitrosated HMGCoA reductase inhibitors, nitrosated beta-adrenergic blockers, nitrosated aspirin and nitrosated diuretics.

Claim 15. (New) A compound having the following formula (2):

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or stereoisomer thereof.

Claim 16. (New) A compound having the following formula (12):

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or stereoisomer thereof.

Claim 17. (New) A compound having the following formula (69):

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or stereoisomer thereof.

Claim 18. (New) A compound according to claim 1, wherein Y is a straight or branched C_{1} - C_{10} alkylene.

Claim 19. (New) A compound according to claim 1, wherein T is CH₃.

Claim 20. (New) A compound according to claim 1, wherein n³ is an integer from 1 to 4.

Claim 21. (New) A compound according to claim 1, wherein R^4 , R^5 , R^6 , and R^7 are H.